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STATE OF DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF STATE DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

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PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES: BOARD OF EXAMINERS OF PSYCHOLOGISTS

MEETING DATE AND TIME: Monday, March 5, 2012 at 9:00 a.m.

PLACE: Division of Professional Regulation

861 Silver Lake Blvd., Conference Room A Cannon Bldg., Dover, Delaware 19904

MINUTES FOR APPROVAL:

MEMBERS PRESENT

Dr. Marcia Halperin, Professional Member, President

Dr. Steve Eichel, Professional Member, Vice President

Eleanor Allione, Public Member, Secretary

Dr. Richard Brokaw, Professional Member

Dr. Joseph Zingaro, Professional Member

Dr. Wesley Bowman, Professional Member

Lee Wheeler, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT

Andrew Slater, Public Member Rosa Robinson, Public Member

DIVISION STAFF/DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL PRESENT

Catherine Simon, Administrative Specialist III Alyona Stakhovskaya, Administrative Specialist II Patricia Davis-Oliva, Deputy Attorney General

OTHERS PRESENT

Agnes Jonas, Psy.D. Joseph Grande Vera Sitze, Court Reporter

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. Halperin called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Dr. Zingaro, seconded by Ms. Allione, to approve the minutes from the February 6, 2012 meeting as presented. The motion was unanimously carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion Regarding the Practice of Telepsychology

The Board discussed the necessity of creating laws and regulations related to the practice of telepsychology in the State of Delaware. The Board took into consideration the existing rules and regulations in the State of Ohio. The Board's main concern was centered around public safety and personal information protection. This will be discussed further next month.

NEW BUSINESS

Rule to Show Cause Hearing – Agnes Jonas, Psy.D

Ms. Davis-Olivia stated that today's hearing was a rule to show cause hearing as to why Dr. Jonas' license should not be disciplined as a result of Dr. Jonas' failure to respond to the post renewal audit in a timely manner and failure to obtain the required credits during the renewal period. The hearing went on the record at 9:22am.

Members of the Board were introduced.

Dr. Agnes Jonas was sworn in and agreed she understood her right to legal counsel, but was choosing to go forward without legal counsel.

Ms. Davis-Olivia gave opening remarks and entered into evidence Board Exhibit 1 - the Notice of Hearing, Final Audit Notice and continuing education documentation submitted by Dr. Jonas in January 2012.

Dr. Jonas gave opening remarks and answered questions from the Board.

Dr. Jonas called witness Dr. Joseph Grande, her supervisor. Dr. Grande was sworn in and gave witness testimony.

Dr. Jonas gave a closing statement.

The Board went off the record and into deliberations at 9:45am.

The Board went back on the record at 10:46am.

The Board determined Dr. Jonas violated the rules by not obtaining the requisite continuing education required for the most recent renewal period. A motion was made by Dr. Zingaro, seconded by Dr. Bowman, to place Dr. Jonas' license on probation until September 9, 2013 provided all of the following conditions are met:

1. To make up for the deficiency of the 2011 audit, forty (40) hours of continuing education shall be taken within 120 days from the effective date of the Board Order, with the following breakdown – at least ten (10) hours of CE shall be taken within the first 30 days of the date of the Board's Order, at least twenty (20) hours within 60 days, at least thirty (30) hours within 90 days, and forty (40) hours within 120 days. Dr. Jonas shall submit proof of completion of these CE hours to

- the Board. Dr. Jonas will still be required to complete 40 hours of continuing education as otherwise required for 2013 renewal.
- 2. Dr. Jonas shall be required to work under supervision to address competency, organizational skills, and any matter of concern regarding her practice. The supervisor must submit a report to the Board every two (2) months for the first year of the probationary period. Upon review, the Board may modify the frequency of the reports after the first year.
- 3. Dr. Jonas shall have an independent psychological assessment within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this Order, and must comply with any treatment plan imposed by such assessment. If a treatment plan is necessary, the independent psychologist shall submit a report to the Board every two (2) months for the first year of the probationary period to document her progress. Upon review, the Board may modify the frequency of the reports after the first year.
- 4. Dr. Jonas shall be selected for continuing education audit for the 2013 reporting period.

The motion unanimously carried.

The hearing concluded at 10:50am.

Verbatim testimony was taken by a court reporter.

Review of Application for Licensure by Examination

The Board reviewed the psychologist application of Nelly Swanson.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Bowman, seconded by Dr. Zingaro, to approve the application of Nelly Swanson for licensure by examination. The motion was unanimously carried.

Review of Application for Licensure by Reciprocity

The Board reviewed the psychologist application of Linda Scarborough.

After review, a motion was made by Dr. Zingaro, seconded by Ms. Allione, to approve the application of Linda Scarborough for licensure by reciprocity. The motion was unanimously carried.

COMPLAINT STATUS

26-05-09 – Closed

26-03-10 - Assigned

26-04-10 - Open

26-05-10 – Forwarded to Office of Attorney General

26-06-10 - Open

26-01-11 - Forwarded to Office of Attorney General

26-03-11 - Open

26-04-11 - Open

26-05-11 - Open

26-06-11 - Open

CORRESPONDENCE

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None

OTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE BOARD (DISCUSSION ONLY)

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2012.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, a motion was made by Dr. Zingaro, seconded by Dr. Brokaw, to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The motion unanimously carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Alyona Stakhovskaya Administrative Specialist II